

The Blue Devils' win was earned through hard work on and off the court, with their individual talents combining through outstanding teamwork. Coming off a semifinal win with the score of 84–68, the Blue Devils put on an outstanding performance in the Championship, with a final score of 61–35. I am certain that their legacy of championship achievement will inspire future Blue Devils to follow in their footsteps.

On behalf of Virginia's Fourth Congressional District, I would like to congratulate Principal Darin Thompson, Coach Kenneth Randolph, and the Varina High School Blue Devils Boys Basketball Team for their inspiring championship season.

BENTON REA'S 85TH BIRTHDAY

HON. DAN NEWHOUSE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 7, 2022

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Benton Rural Electric Association's 85th birthday and to sincerely thank them for all of their contributions to Central Washington.

This electric company has changed the way farmers work. Benton REA was established on April 19, 1937, to serve those in Benton and the surrounding counties. One year later, Benton REA helped Benton and Yakima farmers move into the modern era of electricity by flipping the switch to light more than 89 rural farms.

As the oldest operating consumer-owned business serving Benton and Yakima counties, they understand the needs and concerns of the rural community when it comes to electricity needs. I thank them for their many faithful years of serving the 11,000 members across Benton, Yakima, and Lewis counties, many of whom are in my district, and for providing the electricity they need.

Congratulations on reaching this milestone and I wish them many more years of success.

UKRAINE INVASION WAR CRIMES DETERRENCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2022

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to applaud Rep. McCAUL's Ukraine Invasion War Crimes Deterrence and Accountability Act.

History has taught us that evidence must be safeguarded in order to hold tyrants to account.

Putin and his enablers will gaslight the world until Kingdom Come—but the world and our progeny must know the truth.

As Ukraine's civilians and defenders continue their valiant fight against the beast—we must be ready to prosecute those who murdered innocents and pillaged a sovereign land.

Putin's war is not an act of defense. It is a calculated and brutal slaughter of ordinary people who sought only to build up their precious democracy.

Putin has shed any semblance of humanity. He is a monster with the blood of freedom-loving people on his hands.

When justice comes, let us be prepared with all that we need to sentence these evildoers to the punishments they deserve.

CELEBRATING THE CAREER OF KAROLE WHITE

HON. TIM WALBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 7, 2022

Mr. WALBERG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the career of Ms. Karole White, who served as president and CEO of the Michigan Association of Broadcasters for over 36 incredible years.

Karole has dedicated her career to organizations that have bettered Michigan communities and businesses. Under her leadership, MAB grew from a group with minimal resources, to one of the most respected and robust trade associations in the state.

Karole's leadership helped the MAB integrate into all areas of the broadcasting industry. Her advocacy extended from the smallest high school newsroom to the largest radio stations in the state. Currently, nearly 90 percent of individuals, companies, and organizations affiliated with broadcasting in Michigan have joined the MAB.

Karole's expertise has made her an essential part of the broadcasting industry, and she has built strong relationships across the field, not just in our state but around the country. When she announced her retirement in January, we knew that the industry was losing one of its greatest advocates. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating her and wishing her well in her retirement. After decades of service, she surely deserves it, and I will always count it a privilege to call her my friend.

RECOGNIZING THE HIGHLAND SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL SPRINGERS STATE CHAMPIONSHIP BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. A. DONALD McEACHIN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 7, 2022

Mr. McEACHIN. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to celebrate the Highland Springs Springers Boys Basketball Team for winning the Class 5 State Championship title.

This title run was a tremendous achievement, as it resulted in the team's fourth state championship and first since 2007. The Springers won in the last seconds of the game with the final score being 63–62.

The Springers' win was earned through months of hard work. After a season of hard-fought wins and a remarkable record of 23–4, these young men closed out the championship game in style, securing the win in the final seconds of the game with stifling defense. I am certain that these young men and their championship achievement will be remembered in the Henrico community for years to come.

On behalf of Virginia's Fourth Congressional District, I would like to congratulate Principal Kenneth White, Coach Reggie Tennyson, and the Highland Springs Springers Boys Basketball Team for their remarkable championship season.

TRIBUTE TO THE NATIONAL CHAMPION USC WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 7, 2022

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the NCAA Women's National Basketball Champions for 2022. The University of South Carolina Gamecocks have played with tremendous heart and skill throughout this season, earning the team its second national title.

The Gamecocks have been ranked number one the entire season and lost just two games by slim margins. During the NCAA tournament, they beat No. 8 seed Miami, No. 5 seed University of North Carolina, No. 10 seed Creighton and No. 1 seed Louisville, before taking on No. 2 seed and perennial powerhouse University of Connecticut (UConn).

UConn had been in the Final Four for 14 consecutive years. USC made the Sweet 16 every year since 2014. In 2017, USC claimed their first national championship. The next year, UConn eliminated USC when they met the last time in the tournament. The Gamecocks were in a prime position to win the tournament in 2020, but it was cancelled due to the COVID–19 pandemic. Last year, USC was eliminated in the Final Four.

Head Coach Dawn Staley and the USC players were determined that 2022 was going to be their year. They delivered with a 64–49 victory on April 3 in Minneapolis, delivering UConn their first ever loss in the championship game.

I can't say enough about the leadership of Coach Staley. The Philadelphia native, and former college, WNBA, and Olympic basketball stand-out, has led USC's team since 2008. She built the program from scratch, and by the 2013–2014 season, the team won the SEC Conference and was the top ranked team nationally. Under her leadership, the Gamecocks have won six SEC regular season and SEC tournament championships, made it to eight Sweet Sixteens and four Final Fours, and now, won two national championships.

Coach Staley achieved all of this while serving as the U.S. Women's National Olympic Team head coach from 2017 to 2021, leading that team to a perfect 45–0 record and winning a gold medal. This year she received the Naismith Award as the best coach in the Nation for the second time and has earned the distinction of being the first Black coach in men's or women's Division I basketball history to win more than one national championship.

Coach Staley led a remarkable team with the starting line-up of No. 1 Zia Cooke, a junior guard from Toledo, Ohio; No. 3 Destanni Henderson, a senior guard from Fort Myers, Florida; No. 4 Aliyah Boston, a junior forward from St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands; No. 5 Victoria Saxton, a senior forward from Rome, Georgia; and, No. 12 Brea Beal, a junior